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Eagles Come Up Short in Series Opener at Memphis



Georgia Southern out-hits the Tigers, 11-9, but drops the decision 5-2

MEMPHIS, TENN. - Georgia Southern dropped the opening game of a three game series at Memphis on Friday night, 5-2. The Eagles tallied 11 hits in the game, but struck out 14 times. The Eagles return to FedEx Park for game two on Saturday at 3 p.m. (ET) with [Brian Eichhorn](#) on the mound.

CRUCIAL MOMENTS

Bot 1st - GS 0 - MEMPHIS 3 - A two out walk in the first inning opened the door for Trent Turner to hit a three-run home run to left, giving the Tigers an early 3-0 lead.

Bot 4th - GS 0 - MEMPHIS 4 - Brandon Grudzielanek kicked off the fourth inning with a leadoff home run to extend the Memphis lead to 4-0.

Top 5th - GS 1 - MEMPHIS 4 - [Mitchell Golden](#) opened the Eagle rally in the fifth with a

two out double down the line in right. [Ryan Cleveland](#) laced a single to right on the next pitch to get the Eagles off the mark and cut the lead to 4-1.

Top 6th - GS 2 - MEMPHIS 4 - Georgia Southern got another run in the sixth with more two out lightning. After [Jordan Wren](#) was picked off at second and C.J. Ballard was caught stealing. Hits by [Logan Baldwin](#) and [Tarez Miller](#) put the Eagles in business, setting the table for [Steven Curry](#) to drive in a run with a single to right and made the lead just two.

Bot 8th - GS 2 - MEMPHIS 5 - As starting pitcher [Evan Challenger](#) labored in the eighth inning, Memphis strung together a single and a double with a wild pitch in between for an insurance run heading to the ninth inning.

GAME NOTES

- Starting pitcher [Evan Challenger](#) went 7.0+ innings, facing two batters in the eighth inning before exiting the game. He reached the 100-pitch mark for the first time this season, throwing 101 in the game. He was handed the loss for the first time while throwing more than 100 pitches in his career, allowing five runs off nine hits with nine strikeouts.

- Freshman [Mitchell Golden](#) went 3-for-5 in the game, extending his hit streak to five-straight games where he is hitting .500 (11-for-22).

NEXT UP

Game two of the weekend series is set for 3 p.m. (ET) / 2 p.m. (CT) at FedEx Park. [Brian Eichhorn](#) starts on the bump for the Eagles in a game that is available only at GSEagles.com from the Georgia Southern Sports Network.

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